WE DESTED STATES DATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Avi J. ASHKENAZI, et al.

Application Serial No. 09/989,735

Filed: November 19, 2001

For: NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING

Examiner: Landsman, Robert S.

Art Unit: 1647

Confirmation No. 2513

Attorney's Docket No. 39780-2730 P1C61

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## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

## MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on May 6, 2004 in connection with the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments, and consider the following arguments. This response is timely filed within the shortened statutory period set for the response. This response is also accompanied by an IDS filing with required fees.

Please enter the following amendments, and consider the following arguments.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.